RECEIVED CENTRAL PAX CENTER

JUN 2 4 2005

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 6851-0031 U.S. Petent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office

on 24 June 2005

James Addison Barry, J

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

<u>44,</u>524

(615) 444-3568

Registration Number, if applicable

Telephone Number

2nd Attempt-3nd Attempt-

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of transmission, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper. (US Patent Application Number 09/774,147)

Transmittal Form PTO/SB/21 1 page

Office Action Amendment/Response 25 pages

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is eatimated to take 1.8 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commence, P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

PTO/\$8/21 (09-04) Approved for use through 07/31/2006, QMB 0651-0031 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons **Application Number** Filing Date TRANSMITTAL 01/30/01 First Named Inventor FORM James Martin Billings Art Unit 3624 Examiner Name Narayanswany Subramanian (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Attorney Docket Number Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (Check all that apply) After Allowance Communication to TC Fee Transmittal Form Drawing(s) Appeal Communication to Board Licensing-related Papers Fee Attached of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to TC ~ Petition Amendment/Reply 25 pages (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Petition to Convert to a Proprietary Information After Final Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Affidavits/declaration(s) Change of Correspondence Address Status Letter · Other Enclosure(s) (please identify Extension of Time Request Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund Express Abandonment Request CD, Number of CD(s)_ Information Disclosure Statement Landscape Table on CD Certified Copy of Priority Remarks Document(s) Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Name James Addison Barry, Jr. Signature Printed name Jemes Addison Barry, Jr. Date Reg. No. 24 June 2005 44,524 CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissionar for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below; Signature James Addison Barry, Jr. Date Typed or printed name 24 June 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the Individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form antifus suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

Application Number: 09/774,147 Amendment Dated 6/24/2005

Reply to Office Action of March 25, 2005

Page 1 of 25

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUN 2 & 2005

Serial No.: 09/774,147

Applicant: James Martin Billings

Filed: 01/30/2001

Group Art Unit: 3624

Examiner: Narayanswarny Subramanian

For: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING DOWNSIDE PROTECTION OF

STOCK MARKET INVESTMENTS

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 25, 2005, having a shortened-statutory response period extending through and including June 24, 2005, please enter the attached amended claims, and consider the following remarks:

Introductory Comments:

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action of March 25, 2005, wherein:

A) Claim Rejections - 35 USC §112: Claims 4-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 4 the phrase "is capable of" is vague and ambiguous. Similarly in claim 5 the phrase "being operative for" is vague and ambiguous. The Examiner stated that corrections were required. In claims 5-8, the Examiner stated that it is not